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FILE NUMBER
1917/89/933.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE.

FILE OF PAPERS.

SUBJECT: Agricultural Implements - Mesopotamia.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A11803, 1917/89/933

89/933/1 5622

DECODE of cablegram received from the Viceroy of India dated Simla, 22nd October,1917, 4.10p.m.

--------oOo--------

72 15908 General Officer Commanding Mesopotamia asks for information regarding type of oil driven reaping and threshing machines most suitable for flat country also whether special personnel required to work them and how many per machine. Machines must be mobile. Please telegraph any available information regarding machines used in Australia giving price of machines whether available in numbers and capacity on basis of tonnage and acreage respectively.

RA

--------oOo--------

Copies to Prime Minister,
23rd October,1917.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A11803, 1917/89/933

89/933/2

TELEPHONE NO.
CENTRAL 5551.

IB.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT.

17/4319/8.

MELBOURNE, 3rd November, 1917.

3-NOV-1917

Memorandum for -

The Official Secretary
to the Governor-General.

I am directed to request you to invite His Excellency the Governor-General to be so good as to despatch a cablegram to the VICEROY OF INDIA in the following terms:-

"Your cablegram 22nd October enquiry of Sunshine Harvester Company elicits they are building mobile oil-driven reaping and threshing machines suitable only for flat country. Machine requires one special operator who attends single-handed to the reaping and threshing as well as driving engine. This firm is in a position to supply 50 machines immediately and possibly as many more before the coming harvest in Australia - price approximately £285 each. Machines, which weigh 2 tons, are capa-ble of treating 2 acres per hour, assuming crop to be 60 bushels to the acre, i.e., 120 bushels per hour.

International Harvester Company do not stock oil-driven machines, but are expecting two as samples within the next few weeks. They suggest reference to their head office, International Harvester Corporation, Chicago, U.S.A., who they state are making oil-driven reapers and threshers.

Massey-Harris Company do not deal in oil-driven reapers and threshers.

Unshepherd
Secretary.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A11803, 1917/89/933

89/933/3 5741

89/933/3 4944

DECODE of cablegram despatched to the Viceroy of India on 5th November,1917.

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Referring to your cablegram October 22nd Sunshine Harvester Company are building mobile oil driven reaping and threshing machines suitable only for flat country. Machine requires one special operator who attends single handed to reap--ing thrashing and driving of engine. Firm can supply fifty machines immediately and possibly as many more before coming harvest in Australia price approximately £285 each. Machines weigh 2 tons and can treat two acres per hour assuming crop to be sixty bushels to the acre that is one hundred and twenty bushels per hour. International Harvester Company does not stock oil driven machines but are expecting two as samples within next few weeks. They suggest reference to their Head Of--fice International Harvester Corporation Chicago United States of America who they state are making oil driven reapers and threshers. Massey Harris Company does not deal in oil driven reapers and threshers.

Governor-General.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A11803, 1917/89/933

Cala 23/11 5826
89/933/3 5741

DECODE of cablegram received from the Viceroy of India dated Delhi, 20th November, 1917, 6.50p.m.

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E105

17264 Your telegram dated November 5th please purchase and ship at the earliest possible date for use in Mesopotamia 25 Sunshine Harvester Machines each machine to be accompanied by special operator please telegraph date of shipment and terms on which operators engaged pl--ease also arrange to supply light mobile workshop fully equipped store lorries skilled repair staff and ample stock spare parts.

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Copies to Prime Minister
21st November,1917.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A11803, 1917/89/933

G.G. 89/933/5

89/933/4 5824

DECODE of cablegram received from the Viceroy of India dated Delhi 1st December,1917, 6p.m.

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E135 17842 My 17264 November 20th please mark all cases containing Sunshine Harvester Machines A D Scheme and consign to Civil Commissioner Baghdad care of Em--barkation Commandant Bombay.

1/12

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Copies to Prime Minister
3rd December,1917.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A11803, 1917/89/933

G.G. 89/933/5

5843

TELEPHONE No.
CENTRAL 5551.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT.

P.M. 17/4319/19.

15-DEC-1917

MELBOURNE, 14th December, 1917.

Memorandum for -

The Official Secretary
to the Governor-General.

I am directed to request you to invite His Excellency the GovernoreGeneral to be so good as to despatch a cablegram to the VICEROY OF INDIA in the following terms :-

"Your cablegram 20th November purchased 25 latest type Sunshine Harvesters 8 feet comb 7 horse power double cylinder engines which drive mechanism of machine while horses or mules merely draw machines through crop price complete £286.19.0 each stop Special operators' available salary average £20 each per month commence week prior embarkation and continue until week after return Australia plus saloon fares to and from Mesopotamia also board lodging during stay that country stop Price workshop being covered lorry equipped £155 spare parts £400 tools for operators £50 stop Recommend 2 mechanics accompany repair outfit salary £25 per month and other conditions same as machine operators stop Suggested army wagons be utilized as store lorries but could supply from here at £45 each except despatch February stop Following information desired one when will harvest begin two will men be under civil or military authority three should men go by same vessel as machines or by later vessel to avoid possible enforced idleness on landing awaiting despatch machines to destination four if lorries still desired how many required stop Earliest possible reply desired".

Prices f.o.b. Melbourne.

W. H. Stephens

Secretary.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A11803, 1917/89/933

89/933/15 5143

De-code of cablegram forwarded to the Viceroy of India, Simla, dated Melbourne, 15th. December, 1917.

Your cablegram 20th. November purchased twenty-five latest type Sunshine Harvesters eight feet comb seven horse power double cylinder engines which drive mechanism of machine while horses or mules merely draw machines through crop price complete £286.19/- each. Special operators available salary average £20 each per month commence week prior embarkation and continue until week after return Australia plus saloon fares to and from Mesopotamia also board lodging during stay that country. Price workshop being covered lorry equipped £155 spare parts £400 tools for operators £50. Recommend two mechanics accompany repair outfit salary £25 per month and other conditions same as machines operators. Suggested Army waggons be utilized as store lorries but could supply from here at £45 each except despatch February. Following information desired one when will harvest begin two will men be under civil or military authority three should men go by same vessel as machines or by later vessel to avoid possible enforced idleness on landing awaiting despatch machines to destination four if lorries still desired how many required. Earliest possible reply desired prices free on board Melbourne.

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MR

Pendg

National Archives of Australia NAA: A11803, 1917/89/933

Cable

Viceroy

Simla (India)

15/12/1917.

SOLLEVADAS PURCHASED TWENTYFIVE LATEST TYPE SUNSHINE HARVESTERS EXPURGADAS COMB SEVEN FRONDATIO DOUBLE CYLINDER ENGINES WHICH DRIVE MECHANISM OF MACHINE WHILE HORSES OR MULES MERELY DRAW MACHINES THROUGH CROP PRICE COMPLETE OBRODEBARE OBNUSSABO SALDATOJO EACH STOP SPECIAL OPERATORS AVAILABLE SALARY AVERAGE OBNECTUNT EACH PERMONTH COMMENCE WEEK PRIOR EMULGENDOS AND CONTINUE UNTIL WEEK AFTER RETURN AUSTRALIA PLUS SALO N FARES SUBCHUNDAM MESOPOTAMIA ALSO BOARD LODGING DURING STAY THAT COUNTRY PRICE WORKSHOP BEING COVERED LORRY EQUIPPED OBRUPO SPARE PARTS OBROGANTEM TOOLS FOR OPERATORS OBNUNTIABO STOP RECOMMEND TWO MECHANICS ACCOMPANY REPAIR OUTFIT SALARY OBNIGROS PERMONTH ADURAMUR CONDITIONS RELOCATURA MACHINES OPERATORS STOP SUGGESTED ARMY WAGGONS BE UTILIZED AS STORE LORRIES BUT COULD SUPPLY EXULAVIT AT OBNUBILO EACH EXCEPT DESPATCH FEBRUARY STOP EXPOTURA DESIRED ONE TRIPETALAS HARVEST BEGIN TWO WILL MEN BE UNDER CIVIL OR MILITARY AUTHORITY THREE SHOULD MEN GO BY SAME VESSEL AS MACHINES MONODIQUE LATER VESSEL TO AVOID POSSIBLE ENFORCED IDLENESS ON LANDING AWAITING DESPATCH MACHINES TO DIVERTENDI FOUR IF LORRIES STILL DESIRED FULCIENS REQUIRED STOP EARLIEST POSSIBLE REPLY DESIRED PRICES EXTRITONUM MELBOURNE FIBRANUM.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A11803, 1917/89/933

89/933/6 5935

De-Code of cablegram received from the Viceroy of India, dated Delhi 29th December, 1917, 6-45 p.m.

EASTERN 51

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19202 Your telegram dated 15th December please send two mechanics as recommended by you also harness required with each vehicle unless ordinary military harness could be easily adopted men will be under mili--tary authorities harvest begins 15th April two operators and two mechanics should accompany machines and if poss--ible superintend packing and carefully check consignment at any transhipment en route to ensure safe arrival Mesopotamia balance operators to arrive at Basras not later than 20th March anticipated that personnel required until end wheat harvest viz end of July lorries not re--quired.

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Copies to Prime Minister.
31st December, 1917.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A11803, 1917/89/933